export price in view of its low price elasticity and to encourage setting up fresh plantations of long-gestation period trees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Neither the Export Policy on Red Sanders Wood has been changed nor have the restrictions on export of Red Sander Wood been lifted. Its export is allowed 'On Merits' subject to the following conditions:—

(i) In respect of Red Sanders Wood from Andhra Pradesh, Certificate of Origin is to be issued by the Chief Conservator of Forests Andhra Pradesh. Certificate given by any other authority is not accepted;

(ii) In respect of Red Sanders Wood from Tamil Nadu, Certificate of Origin is to be issued by the Chief Conservator of Forests, Tamil Nadu, Certificate given by any other authority is not to be accepted.

Application are export of Red Sanders Wood i.e. processed Timber are considered by the Export Licensing Committee chaired by the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports.

(b) In view of the above, question does not arise.

Amalgamation of banks

1193. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to amalgamate any bank during the current year; and

(b) if so, the details of proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) There is no proposal at present for amalgamation of any bank.

(b) Does not arise.

Bank advances outstanding towards small scale industries

1194. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what were the outstanding advances of public sector banks to small scale industries as on the 29th March, 1991; and

(b) what measures are being taken to recover the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that as per the provisional data compiled by them, the total outstanding advances by public sector banks to small scale industries as on 29th March, 1991 were Rs. 16,782.99 crores spread over 31.04 lakh borrowal accounts.

(b) The public sector banks have been instructed by RBI to review all borrowal accounts periodically. whenever conduct of an individual account reveals irregularities, steps are taken to regularise the advance and if they fail, loans are recalled and various measures taken to recover the dues including resorting to legal proceedings against the borrowers and the guarantors, if any.

Identification on non-small scale industries units by banks

1195. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of non-small scale industries units identified by the banks during the years 1989, 1990 and 1991 so far;

(b) what is the outstanding bank credit against such units; and

(c) what measures have been taken to recover the dues?